

## UST Rector is Vice President of International Federation of Catholic Universities



*UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., (center) with members of the IFCU Board of Administration in a meeting held in the University in March 2018*

### ANNOUNCEMENT:

Starting this Academic Year 2018-2019, The Academia Online will be released bi-monthly!

This change results in a more timely and responsive publication that presents the University's accomplishments in its functions of instruction, research, community development, and internationalization. It highlights the University's achievements inspired by its Mission-Vision.

The Academia Online is scheduled to be uploaded every mid and last Friday of the month.

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University of Santo Tomas Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., Ph.D., was elected Vice President of the International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU), following the 26th General Assembly of IFCU held from July 23 to 27, 2018 at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Ireland.

Formerly the Director for Asia-Pacific, the UST Rector will serve as one of the three Vice Presidents until 2021.

Established in 1965, the Federation is made up of more than 226 Catholic universities and higher education institutions. IFCU is currently based in France and has ten international research groups working on issues and themes shared among member institutions, namely, Catholic education, diversity and integration in Eastern and Western

psychology, the role of the university in safeguarding the common home, family crises, democracy, bioethics, war, theology, migrants and refugees, and international peace studies.

The Federation seeks to position Catholic universities as communal and social actors, and also provides training workshops for executive management and leadership, internationalization and interculturality, teaching and pedagogy, research and innovation, and mediation, among others. UST hosted the IFCU Board of Administration's meeting from March 18 to 22, 2018.

In addition to having a key role in IFCU, Fr. Dagohoy is concurrently the Executive Secretary of the Association of Southeast and East Asian Catholic Colleges and Universities (ASEACCU).



## Apostolic Nuncio urges Thomasians to seek truth at *Misa de Apertura*; AB Dean Vasco delivers *Discurso*



The Apostolic Nuncio His Excellency Archbishop Gabriele Giordano Caccia, S.Th.D., J.C.L., delivers the homily for the Mass of the Holy Spirit.

UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., presents the 400 @ 800 coffee table book to the Apostolic Nuncio as a token of appreciation.



The University of Santo Tomas formally opened the Academic Year 2018-2019 with the traditional Mass of the Holy Spirit known to the Thomasian community as *Misa de Apertura* on August 1, 2018 held at the UST Chapel (Santisimo Rosario Parish). Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines His Excellency Archbishop Gabriele Giordano Caccia, S.Th.D., J.C.L., was the main presider and homilist concelebrated with the Dominican Fathers led by the UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P. The UST Vice Chancellor and Prior Provincial of the Dominican Province of the Philippines Very Rev. Fr. Napoleon B. Sipalay, Jr., O.P., was also a concelebrator.

In his homily, Archbishop Caccia urged the Thomasian community to passionately seek the truth, because “If we are not attached to truth, other lords will govern our lives,” he said.

The Apostolic Nuncio emphasized, “In the logic of the spirit, whenever you share, you become richer.” Adding, “Think of [having] a candle. When [another person tries to obtain light] from your candle, the light [does not diminish] just because there is another candle... The one who gave the light is still rich, and the one who received light is also rich... Light doesn’t diminish, but

the result is a multiplication, enrichment, for everybody, and the world is brighter. This is the logic of the spirit.”

Archbishop Caccia also urged faculty members to invoke the Holy Spirit as they start the academic year and for each of them to pray, “Make of me a new person in searching for truth, for light, for peace in God.”

Following the Mass was another University tradition, the *Discurso de Apertura*, an academic lecture which is delivered before faculty members and students of the University. UST Faculty of Arts and Letters Dean Prof. Michael Anthony C. Vasco, Ph.D., delivered the 2018 lecture: “Liberal Arts in the University: Human Sciences as *Erlibnis* and *Weltanschauung*.”

Focusing on the liberal arts as part of the core of university learning, Dean Vasco detailed the roots of the liberal arts saying that, “The relationship between liberal arts and the university can be traced back almost 1,000 years ago for both are in search for the truth.”

Citing Pope John Paul II’s *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*, or the Apostolic Constitution on Catholic Universities, Dean Vasco said, “A

Catholic university’s privileged task is to unite existentially, by intellectual effort, two orders of reality that too frequently tend to be placed in opposition as though they were antithetical: the search for truth and of already knowing the fount of truth.”

Emphasizing special place of the Liberal Arts in the university as the foundation of all the arts and sciences, Vasco said, “It is in liberal arts that integration and synthesis of knowledge takes place. The interdisciplinarity, germination, and synthesis of thought reaches its summit in liberal arts.”

In his speech, Dean Vasco acknowledged the great divide between the sciences and the arts, but reiterated the complementary roles of the two and their common origins, saying that, “the influences of the human sciences [on the liberal arts] can still be seen in the vestiges of scholasticism, in the inductive method of Francis Bacon and René Descartes.”

After discussing the socio-political economic challenges to liberal arts, Dean Vasco admitted that, “Providing access to liberal arts education is a daunting task, especially in a developing country whose priority is in the sciences and technology...

Social inequality is one main culprit on why less and less students in other higher education institutions would pursue liberal arts courses.”

Despite this concern, Dean Vasco was optimistic of the future of liberal arts graduates in the Philippines, saying that, “The growing economy of the Philippines needs a bigger work force to sustain its growth... New services will require additional labor force, while industries that are established will require additional [skilled professionals]. I am sure it would also require liberal arts graduates who will man their human resource department, communication and legal departments, creativity and innovation departments, public relations department, research development and intellectual property departments.”

Dean Vasco added that “Applicants for liberal arts courses continue to grow in the past years. In fact, prior to the influx of the K-12 transition, enrollment in the liberal arts courses [of UST] registered at an all-time high of 4867 students across 12 academic degree programs.”

Due to the increasingly complex problems faced by the world today, Vasco emphasized multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to solutions, saying that, “...Liberal Arts people would be needed the most, since they are trained to referee, if not navigate well, the various domains of knowledge and distinguish them using clear-cut contemporary taxonomies of knowledge.”

Highlighting the ability of liberal arts students to develop reasoning, critical thinking, and imagination, the Arts and Letters dean cited Yale-National University of Singapore College of Liberal Arts President Tan Tai Yong, quoting that “Liberal arts education teaches you to question, encourages you to debate, think more broadly then come to your

own conclusions—and how to apply those conclusions to the questions asked [because] a person educated in liberal arts tradition will have the ability to understand complexity and issues in different perspectives.”

Citing University of California-Berkeley Chancellor Carol Christ, Dean Vasco said “Flexibility, creativity, critical thinking, strong communication skills, especially writing, are at the core of liberal arts education... and the challenges that graduates will face are more global than ever, [and so] the skills of liberal arts graduates are in increasing demand around the world [because] employers [in developed countries] are complaining about the inflexibility of a workforce educated without a focus on creativity or problem solving.”

Due to this trend, Dean Vasco said that universities in Asia are “adapting liberal arts education as an economic necessity.”

As Dean of the UST Faculty of Arts and Letters (AB), the professor shared the response of AB to the recent trends. “Strong faculty development is evident by the increasing number of Ph.D. holders in the faculty roster. In the last three years, more than 15 faculty members completed their doctoral degrees. [They] have also engaged in paper and research presentations in various prestigious conferences here and abroad. AB has actively pursued internationalization activities since 2006... hosted six international conferences in the recent years, placing AB in the academic map of various academic and professional organizations,” he said.

In the area of research, Dean Vasco shared the efforts of the Faculty of Arts and Letters such as expanding its research base by increasing the number of faculty members who are affiliated with the research centers of the university.



UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P., introduces Arts and Letters Dean Vasco.



UST Faculty of Arts and Letters Dean Prof. Michael Anthony C. Vasco, Ph.D., delivers the *Discurso de Apertura*.

The Faculty also produces three peer-reviewed academic journals: UNITAS, a semi-annual peer-reviewed international online journal of advanced research in literature, culture, and society; *Kritike*, an online journal of philosophy which is indexed by Scopus and Thomson-Reuters; and the Asian Journal of English Language Studies (AJELS) which will soon go online this year.

After acknowledging and thanking the herculean team effort of the Thomasian community in upholding excellence and continually improving beyond its limits, the dean ended his speech with a wish for a hopeful new academic year.





## UST welcomes almost 13,000 freshmen in annual Thomasian Welcome Walk

The University of Santo Tomas formally welcomed almost 13,000 tertiary-level and post-graduate freshmen on August 6, 2018 through the tradition known as the “Thomasian Welcome Walk and Welcome Rites” led by UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P.

Coming from their respective buildings, the freshmen of AY 2018-2019, guided by their corresponding student leaders, entered through the historic Arch of the Centuries, facing the iconic Main Building and catching a glimpse of the bronze statue of UST founder Archbishop Miguel de Benavides, O.P. The Arch was the gateway of the University while it was still in the Intramuros campus.

The ‘walking-through-the Arch’ serves as a Rite of Passage for the freshmen marking the beginning of their academic life as full-fledged Thomasians. As they entered the Arch, the students were also accompanied by their respective deans, regents, and other academic officials who joined them at the UST Quadricentennial Pavilion for the Eucharistic Celebration and Welcome Rites that followed the Welcome Walk.

The students were divided into the morning and afternoon sessions with the Welcome Walk for the morning group scheduled at 9:00 a.m., while the Walk for the afternoon group started at 2:00 p.m.

The Eucharistic Celebrations which were concelebrated with the Dominican Fathers were also conducted in two batches. The Holy Mass for the morning session commenced at 10:30 a.m. presided by UST Vice Rector Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P. For the afternoon batch, UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., was the main presider in the Eucharistic Celebration that began at 3:30 p.m.



UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P., (in Dominican habit), leads freshmen from the UST Institute of Physical Education and Athletics as they enter through the Arch of the Centuries.

UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., (center) is the main presider of the Eucharistic Celebration and Welcome Rites in the afternoon of August 6. The Holy Mass is concelebrated with the Dominican Fathers, UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P. (left) and the Prior of the Priory of Saint Thomas Aquinas Rev. Fr. Rodel E. Aligan, O.P., (right).



UST Vice Rector Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., welcomes the freshmen of 2018 as he delivers the homily for the Eucharistic Celebration and Welcome Rites.



UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., accepts love offerings from the freshman representatives of the faculties and colleges.



Students from the UST College of Fine Arts and Design walk through the Arch of the Centuries as part of their formal welcome as full-fledged Thomasians.



UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P., accompanied by UST College of Tourism and Hospitality Dean Ma. Cecilia Tio-Cuison (third from right), leads freshmen into the Arch of the Centuries.

Love offerings during the Offertory were allocated for the partner communities of the *Tulong Tomasino* program of the UST SIMBAHAYAN Community Development Office.

For the high school freshmen Rite of Passage held on August 2, almost 4,000 students participated. Their welcome rites included a general orientation program titled #ALAB2018 and a Eucharistic Celebration led by UST Vice Rector for Religious Affairs Rev. Fr. Pablo T. Tiong, O.P., concelebrated with UST Junior High School Regent Rev. Fr. Rodel Cansancio, O.P., UST Senior High School Regent Rev. Fr. Ermito de Sagon, O.P., and UST SHS Assistant Regent Rev. Fr. George Pe Mung, O.P.

## Public Affairs attends Vietnam forum on News in Digital Age

University of Santo Tomas Office of Public Affairs (OPA) Director Assoc. Prof. Giovanna V. Fontanilla, Ph.D., who is also an accredited public relations practitioner, together with OPA Office Assistant for Media, Events, and Special Visits Ms. Michaela O. Lagniton, attended the 2018 Global News Forum held from July 24 to 25 at the Grand Hotel Saigon in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam.

One of the four functions of the OPA is media relations. The publication of Press Releases on UST is facilitated by OPA, and so is the presence of media in University events. Another media-related task is partnering with media for certain programs like the election debate that was held at the Quadricentennial Pavilion produced by CNN for the vice presidential debate for the 2016 election. This function requires OPA to network with both the local and the international media to support the University's efforts at internationalization and at the same time it assists Public Affairs in promoting UST's public presence.

The international news dialogue had for its theme “News in the Digital Age,” hosted by VTV-Vietnam. In its sessions, topics discussed were: “The End of Monopoly on Information: Social Media - Destructive or Constructive?”, “Fake News: Threat or Opportunity?”, “Media Ethics in a Digital World”, “Building Trust and Credibility: Focusing on Young Generations”, “Harassment Against Journalists on Digital Media”, “Stories of Members Successes

and Challenges”, and “Is Your Newsroom Ready for Climate Change?”

Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism Director of Strategic Development of the University of Oxford Dr. Alexandra Borchardt presented a paper on “Insights into News Consumption, Audience Behavior and Trust in the Media Worldwide.” A master class on “Media Ethics and Media Freedom” was conducted by the Director of the Ethical Journalism Network Mr. Chris Elliot.

Panelists for the discussions were: Thomson Foundation Chief Executive Mr. Nigel Baker; Channel News Asia (CNA) Digital News Deputy Chief Editor Mr. David Bottomley; Russia Today Social Media Projects Head Mr. Arthur Sokolov; Reuters Singapore Asia Editor Mr. Ahmed Assar; European Broadcasting Union Head of Eurovision News Exchange and News Strategy Ms. Justyna Kurczabinska; International Movement for a Just World President Dr. Chandra Muzaffar; idtalent Indonesia Founder Mr. Putra Nababan; Thai Public Broadcasting Service Deputy Director General Mr. Pipope Panitchpakdi; ABS-CBN Senior Vice President Ms. Ging Reyes; EMTV Head of News Mr. Neville Choi; Turkish Radio and Television World Director Mr. Fatih Er; Korean Broadcasting System Deputy Director for the Digital Newsroom Yansoon Kim; NHK Deputy Director Mr. Genichi Inabe; BBC Editorial Policy and Standards Director Mr. David Jordan; Pacific Environment Journalists Network Chairman Mr. Iliesa Tora; among others.

The 2019 Global News Forum will be held in Istanbul, Turkey.



Social Media Projects Head of Russia Today Mr. Arthur Sokolov (center) with UST Office of Public Affairs Director Assoc. Prof. Giovanna V. Fontanilla, Ph.D. (left) and Office Assistant for Media, Events, and Special Visits Ms. Michaela O. Lagniton (right)



UST Office of Public Affairs Director Assoc. Prof. Giovanna V. Fontanilla, Ph.D. (right) with the Secretary-General of the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union Mr. Javad Mottagi, Ph.D.



## Bernardo is elected president of Linguistic Society of the Philippines



Bernardo

**G**raduate School Faculty Secretary Assoc. Prof. Alejandro S. Bernardo, Ph.D., has been elected as president of the premiere organization of Filipino linguists and language practitioners in the country, the Linguistic Society of the Philippines (LSP).

Bernardo's term as president started in June 2018 and will end in May 2021. His presidency coincides with the celebration of the 50th foundation anniversary of LSP and one of the activities of the organization is organizing an international conference that will bring together local and foreign linguists who have made significant impact in the area and hyphenated fields of linguistics. Prior to his stint as president, he served as LSP Vice President in 2017 and Director for Conferences in 2016.

Three other UST faculty members were elected as officers: Graduate School Dean Prof. Marilu R. Madrunio, Ph.D., member of the Board of Advisors; Assoc. Prof. Rachelle B. Lintao, Ph.D. of Arts and Letters and Graduate School, Treasurer; and Asst. Prof. Anna Maria Gloria S. Ward of Arts and Letters, member of the Board of Advisors.

The organization, founded in 1969, was the brainchild of Dr. Bonifacio Sibayan of the Philippine Normal University and Dr. Ernesto Constantino of the University of the Philippines, two prominent Filipino linguists. At the onset of the organization, LSP's leaders included linguistics luminaries such as Br. Andrew Gonzalez, FSC, (De La Salle University), Teodoro Llamzon (Ateneo de Manila), Bonifacio Sibayan (PNC), Edilberto Dagot (PNC), and Fe Otones (PNC). Now, LSP is steered by equally prominent language educators and practitioners from prestigious universities in the Philippines.

The LSP aims to strive for the advancement of the scientific study of language particularly on language in the Philippine context and the dissemination of empirical and theoretical studies through different platforms. It also publishes the Philippine Journal of Linguistics (PJL), an international peer-reviewed journal of research in linguistics.

## INTERNATIONALIZATION

**T**en students and two faculty members from the California Baptist University (CBU), California, USA took part in the global health initiative program also known as student exchange program conducted at the University of Santo Tomas College of Rehabilitation Sciences (UST-CRS) from July 8 to 28, 2018.

This program served as an opportunity to expose the students of CBU to different practices in the field of allied health sciences in both the clinical and community based rehabilitation here in the Philippines. Faculty members Dr. Marshare Penny and Dr. Jessica Miller and students Michelle Holguin, Christen Lutz, Erin Mclean, Megan Sands, Dominique Sisco, Briana Bouchet, Nicole Defiebre, Elizabeth Gehrig, Sandra Gomez, and Nancy Gonzalez represented the CBU group.

College of Rehabilitation Sciences Dean Assoc. Prof. Anne Marie Aseron, MSPT, and faculty members of the Sports Science Department were present to welcome the CBU group.

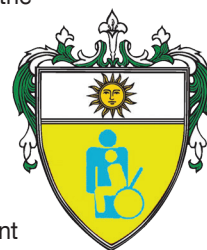
The CBU team visited the CRS affiliation centers, namely, the Philippine

## UST CRS – California Baptist University undertake global health initiatives

Heart Center in Quezon City, the Apolinario Mabini Rehabilitation Center at the UST Hospital, Manila, and the REACH Foundation Inc., in Mandaluyong City.

At the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Department of the Philippine Heart Center, the CBU students were exposed to different rehabilitation protocols for patients who had stroke and cardiac conditions. They were given the chance to observe and assist the staff of the center in managing and providing therapeutic exercises to their patients.

In UST, the group visited the Apolinario Mabini Rehabilitation Center at the UST Hospital, where the CBU students were exposed to Physical Therapy Sessions in a private hospital setting. The CBU students were paired up with the UST-CRS interns under the Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology



programs. Rotating in the Center with the UST interns, the CBU students were able to assist the interns and observe them as they provided services to the patients. They were able to observe how the private hospital system works in the country. They also conducted interviews of the staff.

At the REACH Foundation Inc., in Mandaluyong City, the California-based group had the opportunity to observe how a community based rehabilitation center focuses on pediatrics.

## RESEARCH

### KRITIKE An Online Journal of Philosophy is now indexed in Scopus

**K**ritike, the official research journal maintained and published by the Department of Philosophy of the University of Santo Tomas, is now indexed in Scopus, the "largest abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature" launched by Elsevier in 2004.

Starting June 2018, *Kritike* becomes part of the list of 28 Philippine journals managed by private HEIs, SUCs, government agencies, and professional organizations indexed under Scopus. It can be accessed through the its website <http://kritike.org>

Currently in its eleventh year, "*Kritike*: An Online Journal of Philosophy" is now considered to be one of the leading

research journals in the country, recognized by the Philippine Commission on Higher Education (CHED) in the Journal Incentive Program (JIP) under the Journal Challenge Category. It is also listed and indexed in the following: The Philosopher's Index, Humanities International Complete™ (EBSCO), Humanities International Index™ (EBSCO), International Directory of Philosophy, Modern Language Association Directory of Periodicals, Directory of Open Access Journals, PhilPapers: Philosophical Research Online, and Google Scholar.

In 2017, *Kritike* was also indexed in the Thomson Reuters Web of Science Core Collection, one of the leading scientific citation indexing services formerly

maintained by the Institute of Scientific Information (ISI) and now managed by the Clarivate Analytics.

In the spirit of the democratization of knowledge, *Kritike* is classified under the platinum open-access category, which means that authors in *Kritike* are not required to pay a fee to publish their articles and readers may fully access new and archived issues online without a subscription fee. Except for copy-editing fees and website management, *Kritike* has been staffed by volunteers since its inception. Through the grant provided by CHED, *Kritike* has been furthering its public engagement from organizing free conferences, to the establishment of a new journal subsection where alternative media – which consist of various recorded talks, lectures, and podcasts – from various fora are streamed.

UST Department of Philosophy Chair Prof. Paolo A. Bolaños, Ph.D. serves as the Editor in Chief of the journal.

## LECTURES&CONFERENCES

### UST-CRS hosts CHEd K-12 CPE Grant

**U**niversity of Santo Tomas College of Rehabilitation Sciences (UST-CRS) hosted a four-day seminar-workshop on "Outcomes-Based Curriculum Development in Rehabilitation Sciences Programs: Training of Trainers" held from July 27 to 30, 2018 to start the series of seminar-workshops for all academic institutions that offer Rehabilitation Sciences Programs in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. The participants were composed of 25 from the Physical Therapy profession, two from the Occupational Therapy profession, and one from the Speech Language Pathology profession.

Speakers included UST Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl Peralta, DrPH, UST CRS Asst. Dean Asst. Prof. Ma. Georgina Mojica, MHPed, Mr. Carmelo Cunanan, Mr. Royson Mercado, and Mr. Napoleon Caballero. The seminar-workshop intended to prepare the 28 participants to

redevelop their curriculum for the incoming K-12 senior high graduates.

The topics discussed focused on: Principles of Outcomes-Based Education (OBE); Writing and Aligning institutional outcomes, Program Outcomes, and Performance Indicators; Writing Year-level Outcomes and Course Outcomes; Validating Curriculum Map, Courses, and Content; among others.

Upon completion of the seminar-workshop, these participants may be selected to train other educators from Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao in order to facilitate proper adaptation of their institution's curriculum to accommodate the new breed of high school graduates and strategize accordingly to ensure production of high quality graduates of their respective programs.

BOARDTOPNOTCHERS



Pharmacist Licensure Examinations

August 2018

UST Passing Rate: 91.56%  
National Passing Rate: 69.20%



3rd - 91.35%  
Patrick Joshua T. Galura



4th - 91.30%  
Biehn Beryl C. Que

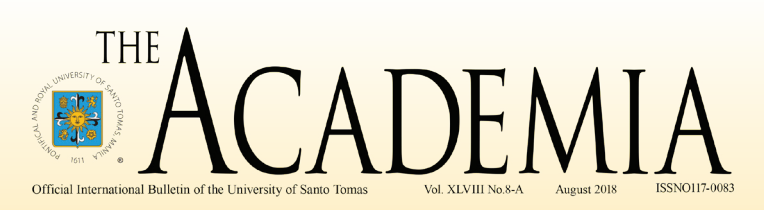


6th - 91.20%  
Maureen Theresa S. Alexander



7th - 91.07%  
Krishna Dasha S. Corpuz

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